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VOLUME XXXIII.

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NOTICE TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.
The time paid for is printed after the name on each paper, and every subscriber is requested to pay the same. The term of subscription expires January 1st, and to this on the part of those desirous of renewing will prevent much difficulty.

GEO. D. PRENTICE, Editors.
PAUL E. SHIPMAN.

FRIDAY, Sept. 4, 1863.

Mr. Lincoln's letter to the Republican mass meeting at the Capital of Illinois will be found in our telegraphic columns. The letter falls deplorably short of the requirements of the hour, as such requirements are understood by an overwhelming majority of the loyal people of the Union. Let those who would know exactly how far short it falls compare it with the inaugural address of Governor Bramlette. The letter throughout is singularly characteristic. It is uncommonly rich in all the peculiarities of Mr. Lincoln's character and intellect. It swanks very strongly of the entire man. Yet we are not without hope that the letter will effect at least one good result. It can do nothing for the cause of the Union in the South, but it can hardly fail to do something for that sacred cause in the North by promoting the triumph of conservatism in the national election that draws nigh. It is a very good letter to be written by a Presidential candidate who deserves to be severely defeated.

The public attention will be attracted by Gen. Gilmore's letter to Gen. Beauregard, given in our despatches. Gen. G. shows that he was surely right in the proceedings complained of by Beauregard, and it appears from his letter, that not satisfied with merely being right, he is determined to take from his enemy even the poor pretext for the retaliation threatened by the little Gason.

In a day or two we shall hear more about the Greek fire. Surely Gen. Gilmore ought to be able, by means of that combustible and his solid balls, to destroy Charleston in short order.

Though Wagner may have been passed and Sumpter destroyed or lost, we don't expect Gilmore and Dahlgren can at present demolish Charleston except by their long guns. The defences that remain to be overcome before a new approach can be made to the harbor are numerous and tremendous.

THE LEBANON BRANCH EXTENSION.—The Legislature of the State and the General Council of the city of Louisville have given all the requisite authority to the people of our city to decide by a public vote whether they will lend their credit in the sum of \$600,000 for thirty years to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad for the purpose of extending their Lebanon branch to Danville. Mayor Kage has ordered the polls to be opened on Saturday next, and, although we can hardly anticipate that a single negative vote will be offered, still it will interest our citizens to know all the advantages to result from the completion of the extension. It will bring our city in direct railroad connection with the very heart of Central Kentucky and the rich countries of Marion, Mercer, and Boyle, and enable us to compete for their trade with the very vigorous rivalry of Cincinnati. The Kentucky Central, running from Covington through Kenton, Pendleton, Harrison, Bourbon, Fayette, and Jessamine counties, to Nicholasville, will soon be extended through Mercer and Boyle to Danville. From this latter point a military road will be built, running to the south to intersect the Tennessee and Virginia lines in the vicinity of Knoxville. When our city is connected with Danville, it will be the fault of her business men entirely if our natural customers in central and Southern Kentucky and East Tennessee are not firmly and finally secured to us as road to Knoxville is built, and we hope it may be pushed forward with vigor, for it will prove one of the strongest ligaments and links to hold together the reconstructed Union. Looking to the future of the prosperity of our city and State, nothing can be regarded as of more importance than the completion of these works. Louisville, by her large ownership of stock in the Nashville road, possesses a commanding influence in the selection of directors, and can thus always guard her own property interests. The value of that property will be materially enhanced by the proposed extension of the railroad to Danville, and we must therefore expect that the vote on Saturday will be nearly if not quite unanimous. The sagacity and liberality of our citizens will be shown if there should not be a single dissenting voice.

THE continued discharge of rebel prisoners, and especially of those who have been engaged in Morgan's raids or attached to guerrilla parties, causes us to be overwhelmed with complaining communications from loyal citizens resident in every part of the State. The practice is severely and justly deplored, for it gives a feeling of insecurity and is discouraging to those who have fought and suffered to drive the scoundrels from the State. There is no honor or faith among them, and with rare exceptions they will violate all their oaths the first convenient opportunity. When they reach home they are petted, and sovranos are offered to them; they are insolent in their conduct and defiant and supercilious in their conversation. Unless they commit an overt act, they are under the protection of the national honor, but they will not hesitate to impair all necessary information to their rebel friends, and there is not a Union officer at home in our State, resting from his labors or recuperating from his prostration or wounds, who is not liable any night to be seized in his bed, through their connivance, and buried off to a loathsome Confederate prison. A distinguished Federal commander expresses the very general sentiment when he tells us it would be better to send all this class of prisoners unconditionally beyond our lines, that they may come back openly with arms in their hands, rather than to suffer them to brood here at home, hatch treason, and be preparing at any favorable moment to join a band to plunder banks, despoil villages, or commit highway robbery and murder. It may appear inhuman to refuse the petition of friends and relatives who importune our military authorities to grant releases, but the whole history of these discharges reveals the sad experience that not one man in one hundred who has returned from the Southern army and taken the oath of allegiance has adhered to it in its honest spirit. They took the oath before they went away; they have repeated the oath and again to subscribe their purposes; and they will continue to swear just as long as our authorities are simple enough to be bamboozled by them. The lists of prisoners confined at Camp Chase have been sent to various counties in Kentucky, and it is always found that more than half of them had previously taken the oath and given bond.

There is no extenuation for this mistaken lenity. It is not the way either to encourage or reward the devoted loyalty of Kentucky; her farmers have lost two-thirds of their horses; their entire force has been destroyed; her merchants have been robbed; her citizens killed and her women insulted. It has cost her millions upon millions to adhere steadfastly to the Union; she has given nearly one-half of her voting population to the Union arms; she is responding nobly to the last call for more troops; and she has a right to demand that these rebels should be kept away from her borders when her sons leave their families defenceless to fight for the integrity of the Union. Are men who have aided to burn our towns, to destroy our county records, and to entail endless lawsuits upon posterity, the fit recipients of lenient treatment? If such execrable crimes were committed in peaceful times they would be severely punished, and retribution would follow quickly; but, when they are rendered doubly flagrant by being accompanied by acts of insurrection against the government, there seems to be not merely immunity from punishment, but the rogues are actually protected. Among Mor-

gan's men are those who burned bridges to endanger the lives of innocent travellers; shall they be permitted to return? Shall those whose hearts are festering with their rotten promises bring the stench to our dwellings? There is no purifying influence in an oath of allegiance to burn out their venom and malice. And it is everywhere observable that those rebels who have many honor about them never apply for release; the applications come from the very dregs of the Confederate camp and the lowest of the guerrilla gangs, who want to be at large again to renew their deeds of infamy. We are the advocates of mercy; we are so from natural impulse, and because we are told to forgive those who trespass against us as we hope to have our own trespasses forgiven; but it is a mistaken leniency to permit these men to come back among us; many of them were drunken, cowardly dogs before they went, and society was happily relieved of them, and some of them were delivered from our jails by the guerrillas where they were under confinement for murder. In the name, then, of that all Kentucky has sacrificed and suffered; in the name of the noble men we have given to the Union armies; in the name of insulted women and families beggared by these scoundrels in their various raids; in the name of negro regiments and offered great inducements to have them filled; they have employed savages of Indian birth, and worse than savages from the ruffianism of Texas; they have misused prisoners most brutally, treasuring non-combatants with the same rigor as those taken in arms for the Union cause; and they have used torpedoes, poison balls, and all the hellish devices which the spirit of Ate ever devised; but the bare idea of exposing prisoners as a shield for their own protection, seems to revolt to have been engendered even in the foul brain of this accursed rebellion. It seems to be the darling object of the rebels in their desperation to make the contest abhorrent to humanity, and so to arouse all the malignant passions of human nature that the belligerents may be transformed to fiends, and thus induce the imposition of "the civilised world in the interests of humanity." But in this they will fail, for though the Enquirer as an ideal saint is to be the darling object of the rebels in their desperation to make the contest abhorrent to humanity, and so to arouse all the malignant passions of human nature that the belligerents may be transformed to fiends, and thus induce the imposition of "the civilised world in the interests of humanity." 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FRIDAY, SEPT. 4, 3 A.M.

Departure of Trains.

New Albany, and Chicago R.R.
Chicago Express Train, 8:30 A.M.
St. Louis Night Express, 8:30 P.M.
Montgomery, Frankfort, and Lexington R.R.
Accommodation, 12:30 P.M.
Louisville and Nashville R.R., 8:30 A.M.
Passenger Train, 7:30 P.M.
Jeffersonville, 7:30 A.M.
Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, & Cairo Ex., 7:30 A.M.
Chicago, and the East, 12:30 P.M.
Night Express for St. Louis, Cincinnati
Chicago, and the East, 10:00 P.M.

OUR COAL SUPPLY.—We have already experienced a frost, and the equinoctial with its cold storms is rapidly approaching. We shall have our pleasant Indian summer by and bye, but the premonitions of autumn and winter remind us of the scarcity of fuel and its very high prices. To the rich this state of things will be comparatively nothing; but to those in moderate circumstances it must prove distressing. The question therefore suggests itself, what shall be done to procure our winter supply of coal at rates which all can afford to pay? The complaint of scarcity is universal, and the Lexington Observer, referring to it, asks most pertinently, "Should not some provision be made with an eye to this matter? Should we wait until a great trouble comes, to meet it? Why not resort to measures now, that may lead round to the good of all, if it be practicable? Would it not be philanthropic to do so?" If there be monopolies why not break them down for the general good? Our wants are in common. The rich and poor are alike interested in this question. Then let us join, shoulder to shoulder, to guard against a common trouble. It is certainly not Christian to command or threaten those who have plenty to disregard the wants of those who have at their command a mere pittance for support. It is but little comfort to know that we are safe—high and dry—whilst our neighbor suffers. Let all be provided for. That is the true Christian sentiment. This can be done if a movement be made in the right place upon the part of those who are looked to as the truly benevolent and guardians of the public good. Let us each other in all candor what are the widows and children, who have no staff to lean upon, to do when the "ug of war comes?" for come it will assuredly. Let those who have power—Influence—with the will to do good—move at once in this matter, and adopt some scheme to guard against coming trouble. Some arrangement certainly can be made by which coal can be brought to this city and sold at reasonable rates. So, let it be done."

Everybody feels the necessity of doing something, but no one seems disposed to take the initiative in any measures to procure re-

lief. Cannot our City Councils act, and call upon citizens for their co-operation? Let the city appoint trusty agents to go to the coal fields and procure such supply as our people may require, and let all who know exactly how many bushels they will need promise to pay a corresponding portion of the expense. Let a large quantity be reserved for the use of those of moderate means, to be supplied to them at cost. If this is to be done we should make immediate preparations, for the rivers will soon begin to rise. We most earnestly trust that some one will move in the matter. Unless some provision is made for supplying fuel, we shall have none to cook our provisions! and all the cheering firesides around the winter's hearth will be marred.

THE BALL SEASON.—The cooler weather has reminded our young friends of the Polka, Mazurka, Redowa, and all the many beauties of the ball-room. The officers on duty at this Post who are not able to be in the tented field where iron balls whistled around, propose giving a military ball at the Masonic Temple, on Thursday evening, Sept. 10th, in honor of Perry's Victory on Lake Erie. It is the anniversary, also, of the raising of the United States flag over Natchez after its bombardment by the garrison Essex in 1862, and of the battle of Canfield Ferry in 1861, when Rosecrans forced the rebel Fleet to retreat, leaving all his camp equipage, ammunition, and cattle behind him, as well as all the private baggage of himself and officers. So that the 10th of September is a historic day. All the officers are expected to appear in full dress of their rank. The Committee of Arrangements consists of Major Mitchell, Waller, and Hacker, Captain Burleigh, Lieuts. Adams and Lloyd, and Sergeants Linn and Guthrie, while Major Faris, Lieut. Brown, Capt. Gilmore, and Lieut. Fletcher will officiate as floor managers. Our young ladies must prepare themselves for this grand festival, as it will be every way attractive and select.

On Wednesday, the 16th inst., the Post Silver Band, Mr. W. Rowden leader, will give a promenade concert and ball, also at the Masonic Temple. This fine company of musicians, selected by Colonel M. Mundy with admirable taste, have improved greatly by their constant practice, and will be able to present a concert which will prove a refined enjoyment to our musical amateurs. We shall be able in a few days to speak more of the details of this ball, which we hope will be an entire success.

THE FAIR GROUNDS.—The improvements and repairs of this delightful and popular resort have now so far progressed that our citizens can make it the terminus of their afternoons ride, where they will be welcomed by the Directors of the Association. There is no spot in our vicinity which is susceptible of being made so commodious for all public outdoor gatherings, picnics, and gymnastic exercises, and next season we think it will be much used for these purposes. Let all visit it and enjoy its advantages.

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